

## **EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

**DATE:** July 25, 2008  
10:04 A.M.

**LOCATION:** Kathryn Weil Center for Education  
Home Hospital Campus  
415 N 26<sup>th</sup> Street, Lafayette

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Gary Miller (Private Ambulance)  
Charles Valentine (Municipal Fire)  
Myron Mackey (EMTs)  
Terri Hamilton (Volunteer EMS)  
G. Lee Turpen II (Paramedics)  
William Rutherford, MD (Emergency Physicians)  
Jane Craigin (Hospital EMS)

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Sue Dunham (Emergency Nurses)  
Ed Gordon (Volunteer Fire)  
Michael Olinger, MD (Trauma Physicians)

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Michael Garvey, Chief of Staff, Indiana Department  
Of Homeland Security

### **CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Gary Miller. Chairman Miller called for a moment of silence to honor two EMS personnel who had passed away during the previous week, Carol Mitchell of Pike County and Pete Wingler from Danville. Chairman Miller expressed thanks to Home Hospital personnel for the use of the facility. Rebecca Blagrove called the roll and advised the chairman that a quorum was present.

### **ADOPTION OF MINUTES:**

**Myron Mackey offered a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting as written and distributed. The motion was seconded by Lee Turpen. The motion passed.**

**STAFF REPORTS:**EMS PERSONNEL CERTIFICATION

First Responders currently certified	6,319
EMTs to be certified this date	487
EMTs currently certified	16,501
EMTs recertified this date	680
EMT Basic Advanced to be certified this date	32
EMT Basic Advanced currently certified	1,260
EMT Basic Advanced recertified this date	65
EMT Paramedics to be certified this date	49
EMT Paramedics currently certified	3,043
EMT Paramedics recertified this date	133
EMT Intermediates to be certified this date	3
EMT Intermediates currently certified	166
EMT Intermediates recertified this date	11
Temporary certificates issued:	
EMT-B	11
EMT Paramedic	2

Drivers Certifications currently certified: 1227

Mike Garvey reported that Tony Pagano had had surgery recently and upon his return will be moving to another position in the agency. He introduced Jim Bennett, the Assistant State Fire Marshal, and Julia Fox who is the new training manager for EMS preparedness. Mr. Garvey reported that the certification section has been installing new software and has a new database. The database will include all state certified personnel in law enforcement, fire service, and EMS. It is the first step toward public safety credentialing and will require all those who are certified to be issued a new certification number.

Commission member Terri Hamilton expressed concerns about some delays in personnel receiving their certificates. Mr. Garvey said that the problem should not continue now that the database is in place.

## EMS PROVIDER CERTIFICATION REPORT

### Provider Level

Rescue Squad Organization	7
Basic Life Support Non-Transport Organization	477
Ambulance Service Provider	129
EMT Basic Advanced Organization	39
EMT Basic Advanced Organization Non-Transport	12
EMT Intermediate Organization	10
EMT Intermediate Organization Non-Transport	1
Paramedic Organization	182
Paramedic Organization Non-Transport	12
Rotorcraft Air Ambulance	21
Fixed Wing Air Ambulance	1
Total	891

## EMS OPERATIONS REPORT

Vehicle Inspections	115
Provider/Hospital//Training Institution Applications	22
EMS Provider visits	69
EMS Provider Audits	01
EMS Training Institution Audits	00
Hospital Visits	03
Hospital Audits	00
EMT Written tests proctored	04

EMS Operations Director Sherrie Crain presented the new format for the provider certification report and thanked Robin Stump and Rebecca Blagrove for their work in developing the report. She then introduced Don Watson and the new Northeast District Manager. Mr. Watson served as EMS Chief for Anderson Fire Department with 28 years of experience.

Ms. Crain reported that the 10 MCI Trailers are now in place and the goal is to develop SOPs for call-out situations. The EMS staff participated in training with the Disaster Portable Morgue Unit (DPMU) in Fort Wayne and also responded to the recent flooding in southern Indiana.

Commission members Gary Miller, Charles Valentine, and Myron Mackey joined a total of 160 EMS personnel in attending the EMS Provider Forums held throughout the state.

### EMS DATA REGISTRY

Mark Nelson reported that the NEMSIS code set will be sent to the state's public access counselor for approval. Chairman Miller asked about the need for reporting waivers and Mr. Nelson responded that once the agency had the capability of receiving the NEMSIS code set waivers would not be necessary.

### Trauma Protocol Workgroup

EMS District Manager Jason Smith reported that the workgroup has held one meeting. He said that the workgroup has to do what is best for the patient and has to do what is best for the patient in 92 counties. They are currently seeking data regarding motor vehicle crashes and transportation protocols. Mr. Garvey explained that the protocols are required by statute to be consistent with the field triage decision scheme developed by the American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma and it could take 18 months to 2 years to complete the process. He also explained that the required fiscal impact study will be hard to complete. Agency counsel Mara Snyder added that the Budget Agency has to be provided with the fiscal impact study before a proposed rule can be published.

### EMS Education Advisory Committee

Ms. Fox reported to the commission that the education committee has formed a subcommittee to study the National Scope of Practice Model. She also reported that the agency was researching alternative curricula for the required autism training due to issues which have developed regarding making copies of the approved curriculum. The goal of the National Scope of Practice Model is to streamline certification levels nationally and to facilitate reciprocity.

She presented the following recommendations to the commission: 1) Allow EMT-Intermediate personnel, with approval and protocol from the program medical director, to obtain a 12-lead EKG in the field and deliver it to a hospital.

**Mr. Turpin offered a motion to accept the recommendation. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mackey. The motion passed. Chairman Miller asked the committee to come back to the commission with a curriculum.**

2) Request staff to develop a web based autism training program to facilitate training of EMS personnel especially those who are not affiliated with an EMS provider organization.

**Mr. Turpin offered a motion to accept as equal to other autism training curricula as long as it meets the objectives of the approved autism training curriculum and allow for on-line training. The motion was seconded by Charles Valentine. The motion passed.**

John Buckman reported on Mr. Pagano's job change and the database update within the certification section. He said that he will serve as the contact for questions about individual certifications until a replacement for Mr. Pagano has been named. He may be reached by phone at 317 417-3695 or by email at [jbuckman@dhs.in.gov](mailto:jbuckman@dhs.in.gov). Ms. Hamilton asked if the certified personnel list on the website was still active. Mr. Buckman responded that it was.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### Administrative Code Readoption

Ms. Snyder reported that because of "sunset legislation", the commission needs to readopt 836 IAC 4-9-2.5, Inactive Status for Paramedics (LSA Document 08-410.)

**Mr. Mackey offered a motion to readopt LSA Document 08-410. The motion was seconded by Jane Craigin. The motion passed.**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### Proposed Administrative Rule Amendments

#### NEMSIS Code Set Inclusion

Mr. Nelson stated that if an approved data collection software company is NEMSIS compliant they were OK. If such a company is not NEMSIS compliant it can still send data to the agency but it may need to become compliant in the future. Mr. Valentine asked what elements have been added to the rule. Ms. Snyder responded patient's last name and date of birth. Ms. Snyder also advised those in attendance to let the agency know if they anticipated any fiscal impact as a result of the proposed rule.

**Mr. Mackey offered a motion to adopt the proposed rule amendment. The motion was seconded by Ms. Hamilton. The motion passed.**

### Temporary Staffing Program

Tamara Sandlin, RN, BSN, Branch Director, Favorite Staffing Inc., addressed the commission regarding the efforts of her company to develop a listing of EMS personnel for temporary positions on an as needed basis by provider organizations. The company would test the personnel on knowledge and local protocol then offer the personnel to the local EMS organization for orientation with the EMS provider and medical director approval. **No action was required or taken by the commission.**

## **LEGAL MATTERS**

### Non-Final Order of Dismissal

*Administrative Cause No. 07-03, Rodney E. Jewel*

Mr. Jewel has not provided any evidence of appropriate continuing education for 3 or 4 years.

The Nonfinal Order of the Administrative Law Judge states: "The decision of the Emergency Medical Services Commission of November 16, 2007 to deny a waiver of the commission's rules on paramedic certification thus denying recertification without retesting to Rodney Jewell is hereby affirmed."

**Mr. Mackey offered a motion to affirm the Nonfinal Order. The motion was seconded by William Rutherford. The motion passed.**

### Probationary Certifications Issued

It was reported that the Agency has issued probationary certifications to the following:

Cause No. 18-2008, James Snapp, First Responder No. FR54379

Chairman Miller asked how an employer was to know if a person held a probationary certificate. The response was that the probationary status was listed on the individual's certification card.

## **EMS COMMISSION RULE WAIVERS:**

### Provider Waiver Requests

EMS District Manager Tom Nowacki presented the following:

*Porter Emergency Medical Services, 836 IAC 2-7.2-3, EMT Intermediate scope of practice:*

Requesting a waiver to add medications and skills to the EMT Intermediate scope of practice: 25% Dextrose, diphenhydramine, glucagon, hydromorphone, and lidocaine HCL 0.4% IV drip, and the addition of synchronized cardioversion to the skill set

John Johnson, Medical Director for Porter EMS, addressed the commission in favor of the waiver request.

**Mr. Valentine offered a motion to approve the waiver request except for the lidocaine HCL 0.4% for 1 year. The motion was seconded by Dr. Rutherford. The motion passed on a show of hands with 4 voting in favor and 2 opposed.**

EMS District Manager Jason Smith presented the following:

*MedCorp EMS South, LLC (MedCorp EMS), 836 AIC 1-4-2(c ) radio talk groups (IHERN)*

The request is for a waiver to allow the use of cellular telephone communications in lieu of IHERN.

Dr. Rutherford questioned if having the capability of IHERN was really a hardship for the provider organization and the importance of IHERN as a common frequency for Indiana Certified EMS organizations.

**Dr. Rutherford offered a motion to deny the waiver. The motion was seconded by Mr. Turpin. The motion passed. The waiver is denied.**

Mr. Nelson presented the following:

*New Albany Fire Department requesting a waiver regarding the requirement to report run data as its software is compliant with the new NEMSIS standard and the agency's equipment is not yet capable to receive the new format.*

**Mr. Turpin offered a motion to grant the request. The motion was seconded by Ms. Hamilton. The motion passed.**

EMS Personnel Waiver Requests

*Brian Beach, EMT-P, 51855, Expires 01/01/2010*

Requesting a waiver of the requirement to pass the Primary Instructor certification examination as a condition for Primary Instructor certification

Mr. Beach spoke in favor of the request.

Staff's recommendation is to deny the request.

The commission has never allowed reciprocity as a Primary Instructor to anyone without the required testing. This has been done to ensure that all Primary Instructor candidates have the same knowledge base.

**Dr. Rutherford offered a motion to deny the request. The motion was seconded by Ms. Hamilton. The motion passed. The request is denied.**

*Robert Metcalfe, previous EMT course graduate*

Requesting that he be allowed to complete the testing process for Basic EMT certification after being unable to complete the process in the required one-year time limit

Staff's recommendation is to approve the request.

**Mr. Mackey offered a motion to approve the request. The motion was seconded by Ms. Hamilton. The motion passed.**

*Norma Pearson, Basic EMT, 60811, Expired 07/01/2007*

Requesting a 3-month extension to complete her continuing education requirements

Staff's recommendation is to deny the request.

The established precedent has been to require retesting as required by commission rules and regulations.

**Mr. Turpin offered a motion to accept the recommendation and deny the request. The motion was seconded by Mr. Valentine. The motion passed. The request is denied.**

EMS Training Institution Rule Waiver Request

Ms. Crain presented the following:

*Ivy Tech Community College of Fort Wayne, 836 IAC 4-2-1 Paramedic Program Accreditation Requirement, requesting a waiver from the rule requiring paramedic training program accreditation due to not having received written notice of accreditation and having a training program scheduled for the coming semester.*

**Mr. Mackey offered a motion to approve the request. The motion was seconded by Ms. Hamilton. The motion passed.**

*Pelham Training, 836 IAC 4-2-1 Paramedic Program Accreditation Requirement, requesting an 18-month waiver from the rule requiring paramedic training program accreditation due to the need to have taught a paramedic program as a requirement for accreditation*

Tim Abram, President Pelham Training, spoke in favor of the request.

**Mr. Mackey offered a motion to approve the request. Dr. Rutherford seconded the motion. The motion passed. Ms. Hamilton abstained.**



**COMMISSION CHAIRMAN'S REPORT and DIRECTION:**

Mr. Garvey stated that Mr. Pagano will move to the training and exercise area for Homeland Security District 5 upon his return from sick leave. Chairman Miller offered a resolution that Mr. Pagano be given a certificate of recognition and appreciation for his years of service to the commission and EMS. The resolution was seconded by Ms. Hamilton. The resolution passed. Ms. Crain stated that the EMS operation data base did not change. Chairman Miller reported that providers will be receiving a reimbursement increase from Medicare which will be retroactive to July.

**2008 EMS COMMISSION MEETING DATES**

Thursday, September 18, 2007, at 5:00PM, Marriott East Hotel, 7202 East 21<sup>st</sup> Street, Indianapolis, in conjunction with the Emergency Response Conference.

The meeting adjourned at 12:57PM.